water for navigation and which is fully permitted. The Treaty provides for resolution of disputes by a Court of Arbitration or by a Neutral Expert, or by either Goverment taking up any particular question directly with the other Government. Government of India, desirous of resolving this issue through bilateral negotiations has taken up the matter with the Government of Pakitan.

Irrigated Area in Jammu and Kashmir

718. SHRI SHABBIR AHMAD SALARIA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the irrigated area as compared to the total area in Jammu and Kashmir; and

(b) whether any schemes have been envisaged to improve irrigation facilities in that State; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) : (a) Out of the total sown area of about 10.30 lakh ha. an area of about 4 lakh ha. is presently receiving irrigation.

(b) Schemes for imrovement of irrigation facilities are planned and executed by the State Governments themselves. During the 8th Plan, it is expected that an additional potential of 0.63 lakh ha. will be added from 16 on-going, 5 new and 3 modernisation works of major and medium projects and 660 minor (mostly on-going) irrigation schemes.

Declaration of irrigation projects as 'National projects'

719. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to declare major irrigation projects as national projects to further aviod inter-State disputes over river waters;

(b) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to set up river boards to manage equitable distribution of river waters among the riparian States; and

(c) whether Government are considering a proposal to link Mahanadi with Godavari-Krishna-Pennar-Cauvery?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) For the expeditious completion of certain large size and important ongoing river valley projects in the country there has been a proposal to categorise such projects as national projects and to provide special Central assistance for their early completion. But that proposal is not related with the procedures for resolving inter-state disputes over river waters which have been separately laid down.

(b) River Boards Act, 1956 provides for setting up of River Boards for advising the Governments concerned on matters connected with regulation and development of water resources of the concerned river. Considering their present level of development, Vamsdhara, Ken, Sahibi and Ghaggar river basins have been identified for setting up of such boards.

(c) National Water Development Agency has taken up studies on the National perspective for water resources development in India, which includes interlinking of Mahanadi-Godavari-Krishna Pennar-Cauvery.

Privatisation of capital intensive irrigation sector

720. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY:
SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to encourage privatisation of the capital intensive irrigation sector to ensure efficient use of scarce water and improve recovery of the cost of major and medium projects; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b) There is no proposal for privatisation of major and medium irrigation projects which are capital intensive. But the work of maintenance of system and distribution of water at the tertiary level and recovery of water-rates is proposed to be entrusted to the water users associations and cooperatives.

नलकूपों के निर्माण के लिए वित्तीय सहायता

721. श्री अजीत जोगी :
कुमारी सुशीला तिरिया :

क्या जल संसाधन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान प्रति वर्ष मध्य प्रदेश, उड़ीसा और उत्तर प्रदेश में नलकूपों के निर्माण के लिए विश्व बैंक से प्राप्त हुई वित्तीय सहायता का ब्यौरा क्या है ;